

# Kuhmareyi language

**Kuhmareyi** is one of the languages of southwestern Fars. It is a cluster of disparate dialects; the one illustrated here is the **Davani dialect** (Davani: *devani*;<sup>[3]</sup> Persian: **دوانی**, transliteration: Davāni) of the village of Davan, 12 kilometers north of Kazerun city in southern Iran. Davani had an estimated 1,000 speakers in 2004.<sup>[4]</sup>

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Kuhmareyi	
Southwestern Fars	
Native to	Iran
Native speakers	100,000 (2012) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	Indo-European <div>Indo-Iranian<div>Iranian<div>Western Iranian<div>Southwestern<div>Persid<div><b>Kuhmareyi</b></div></div></div></div></div></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	fay
Glottolog	sout2645 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/sout2645">http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/sout2645</a> ) <sup>[2]</sup>

## Phonology

The transcription used here is only an approximation.<sup>[5]</sup>

### Vowels

short: â, a, e, i, o, u  
long: â:, ā, ē, ī, ō, ū

### Consonants

- voiced dental fricative: **ð**, generally after vowels, like in, 'bað' (bad).
- voiced velar fricative: **ɣ**, like in "yal'ati" (shroud).
- alveolar trill: like in 'borrâ' (flail).
- palatalization: inclination for 'g' and 'k' before front vowels, like in 'bega' (say).
- voiceless alveolar affricate: **ts**, like in 'tse' (what), and voiced dz, like in andzi (fig).

# Grammar

## Verbs

Davani is ergative in past transitive constructions. For example (Persian transliterations are in UniPers):

English: Hasan saw Ali in the garden.  
Persian: Hasan,     Ali-râ tuye bâq did.  
Davani: hasan-**eš** ali-**a** tu     bâÿ di.

Infinitive markers include *-san*, *-tan*, *-dan*, *-ðan*.

## Nouns

The suffix *-aku* makes nouns definite. For example:

*bard* "stone" → *bard-aku* "the stone"

The plural is marked by the suffix *-gal*. *-u* is exceptionally used for "man". For example:

*sēv* "apple" → *sēv-gal* "apples"  
*merd* "man" → *merd-u* "men"

## Pronouns

Personal Pronouns <sup>[4]</sup>

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	ma	mu
2nd	to	shumu
3rd	u oy	unā ushu

# Vocabulary

English	Davani	Persian (Unipers)	English	Davani	Persian (Unipers)
<i>beautiful</i>	ju, jōnek	zibâ, xoščehre	<i>head</i>	tek, kalla, ser	sar, kalle
<i>blood</i>	xin	xun	<i>heart</i>	del	del
<i>bread</i>	nu, nen	nân	<i>horse</i>	asp	asb, astar
<i>bring</i>	avâðan	âvardan	<i>house</i>	xuna	xâne
<i>brother</i>	borâk, borâ	barâdar	<i>language/tongue</i>	zavu	zabân
<i>come</i>	ameðan, aneðan	âmadan	<i>laugh</i>	xanda kētan	xandidan
<i>cry</i>	geriðan	geristan	<i>man</i>	merd	mard
<i>dark</i>	târîk	târîk	<i>moon</i>	mā	mâh

<b>daughter</b>	dōt, dōđar	doxtar	<b>mother</b>	deyi, dey	mâdar, māmân
<b>day</b>	ru, rez	ruz	<b>mouth</b>	kap, kač	dahân
<b>do</b>	kētan	kardan	<b>name</b>	num	nâm
<b>door</b>	dar	dar	<b>night</b>	šô	šab
<b>die</b>	mordan	mordan	<b>open</b>	vâkētan	bâz kardan
<b>donkey</b>	xar	xar	<b>peace</b>	sōl	âshti, ârâmeš, ârâmi
<b>egg</b>	xoy	toxme morq	<b>place</b>	jo	jâ
<b>earth</b>	zimi	zamin	<b>read</b>	xondan	xândan
<b>eye</b>	čiš	čašm	<b>say</b>	gâ:tan	goftan, gap zadan
<b>father</b>	bu, bâva, bova	pedar	<b>scratch</b>	kerniđan	xârândan
<b>fear</b>	ters	tars	<b>sister</b>	xāk, xā	xâhar
<b>fiancé</b>	numzâđ	nâmzad	<b>small</b>	xujak, kem, xordek, rēz, vahila	kucak, kam, xord, riz
<b>fine</b>	xoš	xoš	<b>son</b>	pos, keraku	pesar, pur, bacce
<b>finger</b>	pinja, piling	angošt	<b>tall</b>	boland	boland, bârez, derâz
<b>fire</b>	tiš	âtaš, âzar	<b>three</b>	so	se
<b>fish</b>	meysi	mâhi	<b>water</b>	ô	âb, ow
<b>food / eat</b>	xorâk/ xâtan	qazâ, xorâk / xordan	<b>weave</b>	vâtseriđan	bâftan
<b>go</b>	šeđan	raftan	<b>when</b>	ki	key
<b>god</b>	xođâ	xodâ	<b>wind</b>	bâđ	bâd
<b>good</b>	xūv	xub	<b>woman</b>	zan	zan
<b>great</b>	got, yoč	bozorg, gonde, gat	<b>yesterday</b>	dig	diruz
<b>hand</b>	das	dast			

## Example sentences

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<u>English</u>	<u>Davani</u>	<u>Persian</u>	<u>Unipers</u>
What is this?	i t̪si-yen?	این چیست؟	In cist?
Where is Ali?	ali an kâ?	علی کجاست؟	Ali kojâst?
This horse is white.	i asp-e espe-hâ.	این اسب سفید است	In asb sefid ast.
Go (and) chain Rostam's hand (and) bring him here, so that I give you the crown and the kingdom.	beđa dass-e rostam huven-eš bâ injo ke-t ma tâj šâi hâđe.	برو دست رستم را. ببند، اینجا بیاور تا من تاج شاهی را به تو بدهم	Boro daste Rostam râ beband, injâ beyâvar, tâ man tâje šâhi râ be to bedaham.
They say he works 10 hours a day.	mege-yen rez-i dâ sât kâr mēku.	میگویند روزی ده. ساعت کار میکند	Miguyand ruzi dah sâat kâr mikonad.
I have two small brothers and sisters.	dikko-m borô xey-e xord-ek he.	دو برادر و خواهر. کوچک دارم	Do barâdar va xâhare kucak dâram.
If you will go just once to their village, you won't forget the hospitality of its people.	agar hami akeš-a šesse-bi-ya velât-ešu hargese-tu meymu dâri-šu az yâđ nemēšu.	اگر تنها یکبار به ده. آنها رفته باشی، مهمان نوازی مردم آنجا را هرگز از یاد نخواهی برد	Agar tanhâ yekbâr be dehe ânhâ rafte bâši, mehmânnavâziye mardome ânjâ râ hargez az yâd naxâhid bord.
Who called me?	ke-š čer-om ze?	چه کسی مرا صدا زد؟	Cekasi marâ sedâ zad?

## See also

- Lari dialect
- Dialects of Fars
- Persian dialects and varieties
- Southwestern Iranian languages
- Iranian languages

## References

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1. Kuhmareyi (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/fay/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Fars Dialects" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/sout2645>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Encyclopedia Iranica article on Davani (<http://www.iranica.com/newsite/articles/v7f2/v7f217.html>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20090115212929/http://www.iranica.com/newsite/articles/v7f2/v7f217.html>) 2009-01-15 at the *Wayback Machine*
4. Salami, A., 1383 AP / 2004 AD. Ganjineye guyeššenâsiye Fârs (The treasury of the dialectology of Fars). First Volume, The academy of Persian language and literature. [1] (<http://persianacademy.ir/fa/ganjifars01.aspx>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20070723105226/http://persianacademy.ir/fa/ganjifars01.aspx>) 2007-07-23 at the *Wayback Machine* ISBN 964-7531-32-X (in Persian)
5. Mahamedi, H., 1982. The story of Rostam and Esfandiyâr in an Iranian dialect (<http://www.azar-goshnasp.net/languages/otheriraniandialects/davanishahnameh.pdf>), *Journal of the American Oriental Studies*, 102.3, 451-459.

## Further reading

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- Hasamzada-Haqiqi, C., 1970. Guyeše Davâni ([http://www.ling.ohio-state.edu/~jonsafari/papers/hasamzada-haqiqi\\_1970.pdf](http://www.ling.ohio-state.edu/~jonsafari/papers/hasamzada-haqiqi_1970.pdf)) (Davani Dialect), in *Proceedings of the First Congress of Iranian Studies*. Tehran University, 77–98.
- Mahamedi, H., 1979. On the verbal system in three Iranian dialects of Fârs, in *Studia Iranica*, VIII, 2, 277–297.
- Salami, A., 1381 AP / 2002 AD. Farhange guyeše Davâni (The Dictionary of Davani dialect). The academy of Persian language and literature. [2] (<http://www.persianacademy.net/fa/davani.aspx>) ISBN 964-7531-03-6 (in Persian).

## External links

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- Encyclopædia Iranica article on Davani (<https://web.archive.org/web/20090115212929/http://www.iranica.com/newsite/articles/v7f2/v7f217.html>)
- Davani sayings (<http://davan.info/sayings/sayings.php>)

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